

2
ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE 28

WALL STREET JOURNAL
31 MARCH 1982

Asides

The Rain Barrel

We were delighted by a story in the New York Times last Sunday quoting some former skeptics about Soviet use of chemical and toxin weapons against Afghan and Southeast Asian peoples. Even Harvard's Matthew Meselson was convinced by the recent 32-page State Department white paper that *something* is going on. But there still are demands for more direct evidence — plant residues, spent canisters and the like, the sort of thing that a really first-rate intelligence agency would gather. We can only assume that this is an indirect plea for rebuilding the CIA intelligence-gathering capabilities that were so badly damaged by Senate witch-hunting in the 1970s.